



Captain Warren C. Graham, Jr. USN
Commanding Officer, USS Shasta (AE-33)

12-5-73 TH

Cmdr. Masten To Relieve Captain Graham On Shasta

The USS Shasta, one of the more celebrated ships in the Pacific Service Force, will have a change of command in ceremonies at 2 p.m. Friday at Mare Island Pier 23.

In the rites, Capt. Warren C. Graham Jr., USN, will be relieved of command of the big ammunition ship by Cmdr. Lawrence Masten, USN.

Shasta has been homeported at Mare Island since August and will remain in this area several months before being re-deployed to the Pacific.

She is one of the newest and biggest ammunition ships in the Navy, with a full load displacement of 18,088 tons.

She is one of the newest and biggest ammunition ships in the Navy, with a full load displacement of 18,088 tons. She is also the 1973 winner of the coveted Navy "E" for overall efficiency among ships of her class in the Pacific Fleet. This is an accomplishment since the "E" was won on Shasta's maiden deployment.

She was commissioned on Feb. 25, 1972, and is the second ship to bear the name Shasta.

Captain Graham, a native of Valdosta, Ga., will be he will be pinning officer transferred to Hawaii where he will be planning officer on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet. He will be relieved as Shasta's commanding officer exactly two years and one day after he became the ship's first skipper.

WEAPONS OFFICER
Commander Masten, of Winston-Salem, N.C., comes to his first command from duty as weapons officer aboard the cruiser Springfield, flagship of the Seventh Fleet in the Mediterranean. He has served in this area Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, Treasure Island Naval Station and in 1963 was an officer student at the Guided Missile School of the Combat Weapons Technical Systems Command at Mare Island.

Commander Masten a graduate of the Naval Academy, Annapolis, in 1957, is enthusiastic over taking the helm of the Shasta.

"She is an outstanding ship with an outstanding record and an outstanding crew. I hope we will continue to measure up, and I am confident we will."

Captain Graham first came to Mare Island in 1953 as a lieutenant junior grade



CAPT. WARREN GRAHAM
... To CINCPAC Staff



CMDR. L. MASTEN
... New Shasta Skipper

to take command of the Bluebird, one of two wooden minesweepers built at the shipyard during the Korean War.

He said he and his family will move to Honolulu shortly after the first of the year.

"We hate to leave Vallejo," he said. "We love it, and it also will be hard to leave our good Navy friends at Mare Island. If there is one thing we have noticed about this area, it is the splendid rapport between the community of Vallejo and the Navy. We appreciate it greatly and won't soon forget how wonderfully we of the Shasta and all Navy folk, for that matter, are received."

Principal speaker at the change-of-command will be Capt. William W. McKenzie Jr., USN, commodore of Service Group One, Pacific Fleet.

The 12th Naval District

Band will provide music for the program, and there will be an honor guard on hand Marine Barracks.